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Wisconsin 2008 LSTA Grant Abstracts

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Abstracts for the LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) projects approved for funding in Wisconsin in 2008 are available below. These abstracts were included as part of the online grant applications submitted by grant applicants in September 2007. The abstracts are arranged in alphabetical order by project number within the LSTA grant categories. A complete list of [LSTA projects for 2008](#) is available.

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A. Technology

Statewide Delivery Services

Northern Waters Library Service 08-111
NWLS Delivery Service Project \$15,000

Delivery continues to be a highly valued and highly praised element of the NWLS service program. A combination of federal, state, county and local library funds support the continuation of this program. The number of interlibrary loans continues to grow and delivery is the means that transports these items throughout our 8,343 square mile service area and to the rest of the state.

The statewide Delivery Service Study Committee and the LSTA Advisory Committee have authorized this non-competitive LSTA category for NWLS delivery because the NWLS service area is not included in the statewide delivery backbone. It is essential for a statewide delivery service to have all public libraries included. If an area such as NWLS did not participate, the additional work of using the U.S. Postal Service would be required for those libraries sending interlibrary loans to and from our area.

South Central Library System 08-113
Delivery Services \$60,000

South Central Library System (SCLS) provides the intersystem (also known as the backbone) connection of the statewide delivery Service. South Central Library System will use the grant funds to underwrite the increasing vehicle operating costs due to higher fuel and maintenance costs.

Public Library System Technology

Arrowhead Library System 08-115
ALS Technology Consulting and Troubleshooting \$10,800

This project will provide the seven public libraries in the Arrowhead Library System with technology consulting and troubleshooting for the software and hardware owned by these libraries. These libraries include Hedberg Public Library, Beloit Public Library, Edgerton Public Library, Eager Free Public Library in Evansville, Orfordville Public Library, Milton Public Library and Clinton Public Library, all members of the Arrowhead Library System (ALS). ALS will reimburse the member libraries for technical support services used, up to a maximum of \$6,000 each, or \$42,000. The Arrowhead Library System will use state aid funds needed to cover the costs beyond the maximum of \$10,800 allowed in the LSTA grant.

Eastern Shores Library System 08-117
Wide Area Network Access 2008 \$12,700

Eastern Shores Library System (ESLS) and Manitowoc-Calumet Library System (MCLS) have been providing wide area network (WAN) access to their member libraries since 1998. Each member library in the two systems has a TEACH (Technology for Educational Achievement) circuit into the BadgerNet Converged Network. The LSTA grant will provide funding for Eastern Shores Library System's share of the total telecommunications costs from TEACH and will also pay for part of the cost of the member library's TEACH line to the BadgerNet WAN.

Indianhead Federated Library System 08-119
IFLS Technology Projects \$39,100

The Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS) is a geographically large system spread across 10 counties in west central Wisconsin. Our membership is made up of 53 mostly small public libraries and 4 county library services.

IFLS will use its 2008 System Technology grant for the following projects:

1. Purchase of an e mail server to help provide additional security for our Wide Area Network and e mail services.
2. Develop and maintain electronic services:
 - Purchase shared databases
 - Maintain its membership in the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium and its electronic book projects with funding from this grant.
 - Continue its participation in the state-wide virtual reference demonstration project called AskAway with funding from this grant.
 - Experiment with New Technology

Kenosha Public Library 08-121
2008 KCLS Systemwide Resources and Services \$9,900

The following services and resources are to be purchased with the grant money:

- Ask?Away Reference Service - Online reference service available on our website for users from home 24 hours a day and seven days a week.
- WPLC Membership and eBooks through NetLibrary - WPLC (Wisconsin Public Library Consortium) is a statewide group of library systems that looks at new and innovative services and works to get good value from buying for a large group of libraries.
- OverDrive Digital Books and Video - the annual subscription to OverDrive digital books and video is available to all Kenosha Public Library and Community Library card holders from our websites.
- Syndetics Subscription - This annual subscription is for the product we use with the Kenosha Katalog to view the cover art and summary information of library materials of books as well as audio and video items.

Lakeshores Library System 08-123
Lakeshores 2008 Technology Projects \$16,500

Lakeshores Library System seeks funds to maintain and enhance its wide area network. This will include maintenance contracts on a router and firewall as well as the assistance of a contract technician. Lakeshores will also continue to improve its ability to train members by augmenting its laptop lab and adding a new projector as well as a phone amplification system.

Expenses for technology-related conferences will come from this grant and an experimental purchase of an electronic book reader.

Lakeshores will add one additional database.

Manitowoc-Calumet Library System 08-125
T1 Lines and Data Lines Support \$9,500

This project will help the Manitowoc-Calumet Library System (MCLS) and its six member libraries to continue to participate in a high-speed, wide area network that is supported cooperatively by MCLS and the Eastern Shores Library System. A small portion of the grant will help fund additional bandwidth.

LSTA funds will be used to pay for T1 lines for Manitowoc-Calumet's six member libraries at the TEACH-subsidized annual rate of \$1,200 per library. The grant also will pay for MCLS's share of three T1 lines that serve the network's central site. Under a contract with the Eastern Shores system, MCLS will use local funds to pay for central site costs, administration, technical support, and the MCLS share of WiscNet email and Internet service. These costs will absorb all of the \$9,500 that is allocated to MCLS in this noncompetitive grant.

Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System 08-127
MWFLS Technology Projects, 2008 \$19,900

1. Providing adequate bandwidth for the MWFLS WAN: \$16,050 will be used to purchase ITP or WAN bandwidth for the MWFLS WAN. It will not be used to purchase Internet service.
2. WPLC Overdrive subscription: \$3,850 will be used for MWFLS's share to participate in the WPLC Overdrive subscription.

Milwaukee County Federated Library System 08-129
System Technology Projects—2008 \$42,800

MCFLS plans to utilize the 2008 Library System Technology Project funds toward the following projects:

- 1) WorldCat database subscription - a database of OCLC bibliographic records. Unlimited access for all libraries. This searchable database will offer MCFLS patrons and staff access to millions of records from OCLC libraries world-wide. In addition, we will have access to a special sub-set of WorldCat called BadgerCat. Patron and/or staff will be able to search statewide only and/or Milwaukee area only.
- 2) Disaster recovery enhancement - we will enhance the MCFLS disaster recovery capabilities by implementing various technologies related to off-site and network-attached storage.
- 3) Remote Administration - we will implement remote control hardware and software.
- 4) Additional review files will be purchased from our integrated library system vendor (Innovative Interfaces, Inc.) for use by staff within our integrated automation system.
- 5) Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) additional content and associated vendor support.

Nicolet Federated Library System 08-131
NFLS System Technology Project 2008—Database Support \$32,800

NFLS in cooperation with the Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS) purchases subscriptions to a variety of databases (Gale Biography and Literature Resource Centers, HeritageQuest, and Opposing Viewpoints) to supplement the state-supplied BadgerLink databases. This project will provide part of the financial support for the NFLS portion of the total database costs. OWLS is the contracting agency, and NFLS provides funding to OWLS for the NFLS portion of the database costs. Access to the databases is available to all users of the OWLSnet Innovative Interfaces integrated library system (InfoSoup.org), as well as to all users of the Brown County Library's Sirsi-Dynix integrated library system. Access to the databases is made available to all the libraries in both systems, as well as to users who log in to either the Brown County Library or OWLSnet websites from home or anywhere, using their library card barcode number.

Northern Waters Library Service 08-133
NWLS Technology Expansion Project \$27,500

These technology grant funds will be used primarily to purchase subscriptions to online databases chosen by NWLS staff with input from member library staff. Some funding will also be used for membership in the WPLC (Wisconsin Public Library Consortium), through which NWLS offers access to e books, downloadable audiobooks and downloadable video.

Outagamie Waupaca Library System 08-135
Support for Online Databases \$15,600

Since 2000 the Outagamie Waupaca Library System and the Nicolet Federated Library System have provided their member libraries and patrons with access to a variety of electronic resources. Current subscriptions include Opposing Viewpoints, Biography Resource Center, Literature Resource Center, Ancestry Library Edition, HeritageQuest, WorldCat, BadgerCat and Tumblebooks. In addition, OWLS provides Learning Express Library and the Post Crescent from Newsbank to its members.

Because of limited system funding it is difficult to pay for all of these subscriptions. In addition, member libraries continue to express the desire to have additional database products available to them. OWLS regularly evaluates the use of its online subscriptions and makes adjustments to licensing arrangements in order to optimize the benefit it receives from limited resources.

OWLS proposes to use LSTA funds to assist with paying for electronic resource subscriptions in 2008.

South Central Library System 08-137

SCLS Technology Projects, 2008 \$48,300

The LSTA 2008 funds from the Library System Technology Projects noncompetitive grant category (in the amount of \$48,300) will be allocated to the following SCLS projects, as approved by the Joint Technology Committee of SCLS:

I. Digitization of a local history title

\$2650 of the LSTA funds will be used to digitize a local history title. The exact title has not yet been determined. Some funds may also be used to add content digitized with 2007 LSTA funds to the State of Wisconsin Collection.

II. Creating an interactive support environment for online databases

\$500 will be used to contract with a company to host an interactive support environment for our online resources, particularly OverDrive.

III. Online databases

\$11,000 will be used to pay for a portion of the online resources SCLS member libraries and the system contribute to provide to residents.

IV. Upgrades to library workstation for accessibility

\$10,000 will be used to provide member libraries with needed equipment to make at least one of their public workstations an accessible workstation. This may include 19 inch monitors, keyboard and mouse cords longer than 2 feet, and alternative input devices.

V. Upgrade to new PAC

\$24,150 will be used to help with the purchase of a new public access catalog module to overlay our existing Dynix implementation.

*Southwest Wisconsin Library System 08-139
SWLS Technology Projects \$16,000*

This grant will allow the Southwest Wisconsin Library System to do the following:

1. Continue to subsidize the T-1 line costs for 24 of its member libraries.
2. Continue its membership in the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (joining in late 2007).
3. Cover the cost of the annual subscription to OverDrive Digital books for all 28 SWLS member libraries.
4. Provide part of the funding for a subscription to the online genealogy database, Heritage Quest.

*Waukesha County Federated Library System 08-141
Gaming and Bandwidth \$19,800*

The Waukesha County Federated Library System (WCFLS) will use the funds in this category for two purposes, bandwidth and gaming for teen educational interests.

*Winding Rivers Library System 08-143
WAN Development and Maintenance 2008 \$25,700*

The WAN Development and Maintenance project addresses issues relating to Shared Automation Systems, by providing support for the central site capabilities of WRLSWEB, our shared technology network, which delivers library automation services to member libraries, the resource library, and WRLS staff. The majority of the grant funds will be used to enhance the central site databases and cover the licenses that provide access to

these resources for sharing among member libraries. There will also be funds expended for training of staff to optimize use of the information technology capabilities, and a small amount used for supplies related to training and database support.

Specific steps in the project will include:

1. Contract with La Crosse Public Library (LPL) for training and technical support services for Winding Rivers and member library staff (\$10,175 + \$9,525 = \$19,700);
2. Contract with LPL for database enhancement services and maintenance of hardware and software licenses for the central site infrastructure (\$3,800);
3. Contract with LPL for the provision of training and database supplies needed to fulfill obligations encompassed by one (1) and two (2) above (\$2,200);

Winnefox Library System 08-145

Winnefox Technology Project—2008 \$21,800

The grant funds will be used to help pay for several features on our WALS automated catalog/circ system that will benefit our member libraries and their users:

Catalog enrichment
Report writing software
Z39.50 software
SIP2 license

For several years we have linked to Syndetic Solutions for additional content for our catalog records: Contents notes, reviews, excerpts, and cover art. This content has been well received by both library staff and patrons and has enhanced the usefulness of the catalog.

API is the report writing module for our SirsiDynix automated system. This will allow us to continue to license this software.

We will continue to maintain a Z39.50 interface to allow other libraries ILL access to our catalog. WISCAT is now connected to our catalog via Z39.50.

The SIP2 license allows self-check units, Pharos software for public PC management, and the Overdrive audiobook program to communicate with the patron database.

Wisconsin Valley Library Service 08-147

Federated Searches, Bandwidth, and Playaways \$31,300

A portion of this grant will enable the implementation of the consolidated searching service provided by our automation vendor, SirsiDynix (SD). SD contracts with a third party vendor to provide consolidated searching capabilities. This module will enable the catalog, all databases, and any other web sites of our choosing to be searched at once.

Grant funds will provide increased bandwidth for the libraries through the WVLS central site configuration.

The grant will also fund Playaways. These are books that are recorded on their own MP3 player. They are totally self-contained so there is no downloading from the web.

Merging Shared Automated Systems

Indianhead Federated Library System 08-149

Merging Systems in IFLS \$35,000

The Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS) is a geographically large system spread across 10 counties in west central Wisconsin. Our membership is made up of 53 mostly small public libraries and 4 county library services. Forty-one of our member

libraries are in communities of less than 3,000. Currently there are 2 shared systems.

IFLS is submitting this LSTA grant application to merge BCLiC into MORE.

Digitization

Hedberg Public Library 08-151

Janesville's Past, Part II: City/County Directories 1857-1923 \$5,120

This project is an extension of "Janesville's Past" a project that digitized five pictorial works and a portion of a local postcard collection which were significant to Janesville's history. In the second phase of the digitization project, Hedberg Public Library would like to offer researchers the opportunity to retrieve information about the local resident and business listings published in early Janesville City or Rock County Directories from their home or other locations outside of the library. Hedberg Public Library will work with the UW-Madison Digital Content Group, which has been selected to do the digitizing and metatagging of the materials. Hedberg Public Library will select the materials and supply the metadata for each item.

Resources to be Digitized In Janesville's Past Part II: City/County Directories 1857-1923

Janesville City Directories: 1859/60; 1866; 1870/71; 1874/75; 1878/79; 1880; 1884/85; 1889; 1889/90; 1892/93; 1894/95; 1898/99; 1902/03; 1903; 1907; 1911; 1913; 1915; 1917; 1921; 1923

Rock County Directories: 1857/58; 1859/1860; 1862; 1876; 1886/87; 1881; 1896/97; 1900/01 Osborne; 1900/01 Wright's; 1905; 1909; 1919

Kenosha Public Library 08-153

Kenosha County History: Images and Texts, 1830s-1940s \$5,745

The Kenosha Public Library (KPL) Reference Services Division is applying for an LSTA Digitization-Local Resources grant for the first time. This grant will allow for the digitization of texts and images from the KPL and Kenosha County Historical Society and Museum (KCHS and Museum) collections and make them available on various websites and via Internet search engines.

A collaborative project between the Library and the KCHS and Museum will raise awareness of area residents to the rich variety of images and texts found within the library system and the Kenosha History Center Archives, run by the KCHS and Museum. When digitization work is completed, these online text and photographic collections will be promoted by a news release, flier, small poster, articles in the Kenosha News, and the newsletters of the library system, the Kenosha County Historical Society, and the Kenosha County Genealogy Society.

Resources to Be Digitized:

- C.E. Dewey Lantern Slide Collection
- Kenosha History Center Archives
- Kenosha County Historical Society and Museum
- Named collectively for Courtland Earnest Dewey, the approximately 1,300 images primarily depict people, buildings, landscapes, objects and significant events in the city and county of Kenosha from the 1830s to the early 1940s.

Kenosha Public Library Books

1. Pioneer Life in Kenosha County: a Sketch / by H.M. Simmons. 1876. 24 p.
2. The History of Racine and Kenosha Counties, Wisconsin. 1879. 738 p.
3. Kenosha Illustrated: Historical, Descriptive and Biographical. 1897. 67 p.
4. Commemorative Biographical Record of Prominent and Representative Men of Racine and Kenosha Counties, Wisconsin, Containing Biographical Sketches of

Business and Professional Men and of Many of the Early Settled Families. 1906. 754 p.

5. Greater Kenosha: Interesting Views, Public Buildings, Churches, Schools, Handsome Residences, Parks and Manufacturing Industries. 1911. 65 p.
6. Kenosha's Part in the World War. [1919?] 114 p.
7. Souvenir, Kenosha County Court House: and Bits of Yesterday, Foundations of Today. [1925?] 110 p.
8. The City Plan of Kenosha, Wisconsin / Harland Bartholomew. 1925. 121 p.

La Crosse Public Library 08-155

Maps and Atlases of La Crosse County and the Upper Mississippi River \$5,506

This project plans to digitize 111 map titles, some of which are manuscript material; two archival documents; and one printed report, all related to the history of La Crosse, Wisconsin. This group of material includes maps and atlases of La Crosse County of a variety of types, including plat (ownership), highway, soil, topographic; city of La Crosse including zoning, parks, and street; other La Crosse County municipalities; and selected pre- and post-lock and dam charts and maps of the Upper Mississippi River. The date range of the maps is approximately 1854-1987 and will demonstrate the rich history of the area from the days of logging to the post-lock and dam system on the Mississippi River.

This proposal focuses on materials that are oversize and thus difficult and expensive to host locally with the existing talents and equipment available and probably would not be digitized otherwise. There is wide interest in the community and beyond for La Crosse's local history material among students at all levels (4th-graduate), family history, municipal and other governmental research, environmental assessment research, property research, and original river channels.

This project of the La Crosse Public Library (LPL) will complement local efforts by LPL and the University of Wisconsin—La Crosse Murphy Library (UWL) to provide wide access to digitized local history. These existing efforts can be seen at <http://lacrossehistory.org/>.

Nicolet Federated Library System 08-157

NFLS LSTA 2008—Digitization of Local Yearbooks Project \$5,541

NFLS and its member libraries will work with the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections Center (UWDCC) to digitize a selection of 54 school yearbooks from six Nicolet libraries representing seven communities. Yearbooks date from 1895 - 1930. The six participating libraries and the communities the yearbooks represent are:

- Brown County Library (Green Bay, De Pere)
- Algoma Public Library (Algoma)
- Door County Library (Sturgeon Bay)
- Kewaunee Public Library (Kewaunee)
- Farnsworth Public Library (Oconto)
- Oconto Falls Community Library (Oconto Falls)

The electronic versions of these yearbooks will be available to genealogists, historians, and the general public through the University of Wisconsin Digital Collection web site at <http://uwdcc.library.wisc.edu/index.html>, the NFLS web site at <http://www.nfls.lib.wi.us/> the Brown County Library web site at <http://www.co.brown.wi.us/library/> and from links on the web pages of all the other NFLS member libraries.

Mead Public Library 08-159

Sheboygan County Historical Documents \$5,978

The selection of materials from Mead Public Library includes furniture factory catalogs and photographs, histories of the City of Sheboygan, extensive histories of Sheboygan County, and biographical information of early residents and founding fathers of the county.

This digitization project will provide unlimited access to historical information as well as preserve these exclusive volumes in digital format so that all can enjoy historical information about the development and growth of Sheboygan County.

Waterford Public Library 08-161 *Waterford Area Local History* \$6,000

This project will be phase two of the Waterford Area Local History digitization project which was first funded in 2006. The items submitted for digitization in this round will complement images, books and documents submitted for the first round of digitization. Since the Waterford Area Local History project came online in July of 2006, Waterford Union High School, local merchants and residents have stepped forward with equally significant artifacts to include in our online Waterford archive. At this point we wish to expand the rich online history treasure that is now accessible to the world.

Innovative Use of Technology

Eastern Shores Library System 08-163
***Using Wireless Access for Bookmobile Library Service* \$5,950**

Eastern Shores Library System is rather unique in its role of providing bookmobile service. A majority of the seven other bookmobile services are under the umbrella of a public library. However, if you ask any of the Eastern Shores bookmobile customers they would emphatically state, "this is their public library."

This funding would provide the first steps for the bookmobile to use wireless access throughout the two counties it serves.

Hedberg Public Library 08-165
***Enhancing Access to Employment* \$4,395**

Today's economy has left many people without jobs or at jobs paying the minimum wage. Janesville has seen the poverty rate almost double from 6.5% in 1999 to 12.7% in 2006. A big challenge to those living at or near the poverty level is finding full-time jobs that pay benefits and pay a living wage.

The Hedberg Public Library serves over 80,000 people in Janesville and the surrounding area. Many people searching for jobs come to the library to use print and electronic resources to help them find job information. The Rock County Job Center, part of the Southwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Board (SWWDB), provides assistance to more than 159,000 people from all over the area who are in need of employment. When the local Job Center isn't open, the library becomes the only place where people can go to in search of job information.

The SWWDB has recently released an updated web site to help their clients find job and career information more efficiently. Their goal is to reach people where they are in the community with the new web site. The reference librarians at the Hedberg Public Library, though, have had difficulty helping patrons using the Virtual Job Center's online job application service. Software and technological problems have resulted in patrons being unable to file online job applications successfully at times.

This grant will provide a unique opportunity for the library and the Rock County Job Center/SWWDB to collaborate in improving service to patrons/clients. Through the sharing of technology services and training, the library and the Job Center will be able to work together to provide successful experiences for those using the library's resources and for those looking for and utilizing job information on the Virtual Job Center web site. This type of collaboration can be a model for other libraries looking for innovative uses of technology.

Manitowoc-Calumet Library System 08-167
***Battle of the Boxes—Competition on the Coast (BoBCo)* \$20,000**

The 2008 LSTA Innovative Technology Grant proposal entitled “The Battle Of the Boxes - Competition on the Coast” is designed to attract community members to the public library and enroll, inform and engage them through one of the newest modes of informational content - virtual gaming. The Manitowoc-Calumet (MCLS), Eastern Shores (ESLS), Lakeshores (LSLS) and Kenosha County (KCLS) Library Systems together will use this grant to provide innovative technology programming and groundbreaking services to many residents heretofore under-served or over-looked.

The video tournament will be modeled after the very successful “Battle of the Books”, an annual competition between MCLS teens and also a staple of YA programming in LSLS. The only qualifications a player needs is to possess a valid library card, play against another gamer from the same library and keep score, time or level completed in order to determine a winner and proceed through no fewer than seven rounds of play. Games chosen will be determined from a list compiled by a selection committee.

In the fall of 2008, each System will crown a System champion to compete at the regional level with the other participating Library Systems. The final tournament will feature the best teams from all 4-library systems competing against one another in an expanded version of in-library gaming that will take place ‘physically’ in the library, but competitively in cyberspace through innovative satellite technology. Games, controllers, consoles, video projectors and screens will be purchased using LSTA funds for those libraries needing this equipment. Promotion and marketing will be spearheaded in each individual System and collectively through the middle schools and high schools, in local newspapers, through PSA’s, radio interviews, library bulletins and newsletters and local T.V. stations. YA Librarians, Library Directors, System Staff, local teens, educators and social service providers will form an advisory committee.

Elisha D. Smith Public Library 08-169
Podcasting Studios \$3,799

The Elisha D. Smith Public Library understands that we have to offer our patrons space to not only find information and read, but also the opportunity to create their own content. The Podcasting Studios project will help us serve the youth of our community, will give our patrons a place to express themselves, will position us as a place to access new technology, and will give our library the ability to start podcasting ourselves.

Each studio will consist of an iMac with microphones and software that will enable people to create podcasts. Additionally, we will provide photo editing software so that people can create their own podcast logos. The studios will not be connected to the Internet, because we do not want them to be overtaken by people simply wanting to access the Internet. Rather, they will be reserved strictly for offering our community a suite of programs to express themselves and their experiences. USB drives will be available for patrons to post their content to either the library website or other sites like MySpace or Podcaster using our Internet computers.

To encourage use and introduce this new concept to our community.

- The library will heavily promote the new Podcasting Studios.
- We will also offer classes to acquaint patrons with the technology we are offering.
- We will provide space to showcase patron podcasts on our website.
- We will produce a local history podcast series, interviewing people in the community.

Nicolet Federated Library System 08-171
NFLS Innovative Technology Project—Game Systems on the Move \$7,295

This LSTA application, entitled “Game Systems on the Go,” is a response to a new need that many of the Nicolet Federated Library System member libraries are addressing. While some libraries have expressed interest in having gaming consoles and a variety of games for users, the reality is that most library boards are sensitive to the spending of scarce local resources on a “new” and untried program. However, a trial of such a program, using LSTA funds obtained by the Nicolet system would undoubtedly provide the libraries with opportunities not only to showcase gaming as a worthwhile library activity, but will also create a new interest in the library by new users, as well as returning

users.

NFLS will acquire already library-tested console systems and games, and will circulate them to libraries on a reservation-only basis, and will work with the member libraries to develop programs, competitions, and activities for a variety of user's ages and interests. This grant will provide an opportunity for NFLS to assist its member libraries in making the transition to the new opportunities.

Oshkosh Public Library 08-173
Oshkosh Community Photo Album \$3,688

Oshkosh Public Library has a digital collection of historic atlases, city directories, and some photographs. We request grant funding to take our digital collection in a new direction and to allow us to focus our efforts on Oshkosh residents. The Community Photo Album will be a service, a collection and an educational endeavor.

Service Goal:

Entice residents to share photographs by offering a scanning service for the public. Promote the library as a scanning center for our residents to bring their Oshkosh photographs and videos for conversion. We will do the work and in return people will get a compact disc of their items. (Appropriate limits will be set.) Individuals in Oshkosh may not have a computer or scanner or may have no idea how to use these two electronic devices. They may have their memories on compact disc but no ideas for creating something memorable and easily sharing these precious or unique memories.

Collection Goal:

Where our existing digital collections have a planned subject schema, such as Barns of Winnebago County, the Community Album collection will grow informally based upon the photographs or video images we receive. We will encourage "donations" of images of community events, such as our Children's Parade, which recently celebrated its 75th anniversary.

Our plan is to contact local organizations and individuals to solicit their collections for the Album and to work on their items during our slower periods (if slower periods occur). These are people we know so it should be easy to explain the issue of possible ebb and flow in our workflow. We may also work on photos previously donated by the public to the library if there is an ebb and flow of public donations.

As resource library for the Winnefox Library System, our pilot project will also serve as a model for our smaller system libraries that may want to start to build digital collections on a smaller basis (low cost and limited staff impact).

This seems an ideal time to attract an audience to our project and the new type of collection we will create. The popularity of genealogical and local history research and scrap booking (\$2.6 billion in supply sales) has increased in recent years. Emphasis is on how to save family memories for future generations; scrap booking or converting into digital format are the techniques being used today. The library predicts high usage of the "Community Photo Album." Our 2007 pre-grant test of Phanfare, the Harry Potter Photo Gallery, yielded digital 90 photographs and generated 343 page views the first week it was accessible.

The library's strategic plan encourages collaboration between the library and community groups. Organizations such as the Oshkosh Memorabilia club, Oshkosh Public Museum, City Landmarks Commission and others will be asked to guide residents to this facility. In exchange, the library will encourage residents to pass on their original documents, photographs and videos to the Public Museum or other suitable institutions.

Outagamie Waupaca Library System 08-175
Enhancing Library Services via Podcasts, Screencasts, and Vodcasts \$9,327

This project will address two areas of need that have emerged within OWLS. First, InfoSoup patrons have expressed a need for more information about InfoSoup and all of its associated resources. They also have requested instruction (e.g. "mini-tutorials") on how to use them. Second, OWLS member libraries rank 4th in the number of programs per capita and 1st in programming attendance per capita of the 17 Wisconsin public library systems. There is a need for our member libraries to make their programming more accessible to more patrons and to get more bang for their programming bucks. Both of these needs can be addressed by the production of podcasts, screencasts, and vodcasts that can be provided online for patrons' use at their convenience.

OWLS staff will be responsible for creating online instructional materials (e.g. podcasts, screencasts, or vodcasts) for patrons on the use of InfoSoup, its patron features, and online databases and research tools. These materials will then be promoted on the InfoSoup homepage, help pages, Research Tools page, and on member library web sites. To enable the production of these materials, a recording and editing workstation will be created for staff use which will include the following software and equipment: a desktop computer, group microphone, individual headset/microphone, portable voice recorder, video camera with tripod and wireless microphone system and extra SD memory cards, Camtasia Studio, and ePodcast Producer.

OWLS will also create a 'Casting Kit that will circulate to member libraries to enable them to create their own podcasts, screencasts, or vodcasts. The 'Casting Kit will be made up of the same contents as the OWLS equipment and software listed above, though a laptop will be substituted for the desktop computer. Training and documentation will be provided on how to use the 'Casting Kit and assistance with the production of materials will also be provided. The Kit will enable member libraries to move traditional library services and programming to the web, thereby extending their resources outside the physical walls of their buildings, reaching patrons who are either unable to attend programs when scheduled or who prefer to attend "virtually."

Online evaluation forms will be linked to from materials developed, so that the usefulness and effectiveness of the resources can be examined. We will also survey patrons twice throughout the year to see if the materials developed are increasing the use and awareness of library resources and if patrons are finding the format easy to use and informative. Statistics on the use of the materials will be gathered, as will statistics on the use of the 'Casting Kit.

The creation of podcasts, screencasts, and vodcasts will greatly enhance library services to patrons as they can be provided online, in context, and will be available at any time, day or night, for use in any location as often as the user would like. The evaluation tools available today will allow us to respond to patron and library input, so that we are truly providing what our libraries and patrons need. This project will provide incredible opportunities for future creative projects that can be developed collaboratively by OWLS and our member libraries.

Southwest Wisconsin Library System 08-177 ***Gamers in the Library \$1,149***

According to Eli Neiburger, in his book, "Gamers...in the Library?!", "like the Internet in the 1990s, gaming is increasingly in demand in every community. Even though it may seem daunting, gaming events and services are within the reach of any public library."

This grant will allow the Southwest Wisconsin Library System to purchase a gaming package. The gaming package will be used by member public libraries, on a rotating basis, to begin to offer gaming events and services to their patrons and thus attract non-users be they tweens, teens or adults regardless of gender.

Wireless Internet Access

Eastern Shores Library System 08-179 ***Wireless Access for ESLS Libraries \$3,500***

Technology in libraries needs to keep up with the times, and one of the services libraries need to offer is wireless Internet access for public users. In Eastern Shores Library System, eight of the member libraries are offering wireless access to the public in 2007.

The libraries that do not currently have wireless access are the Cedar Grove Public Library, the Plymouth Public Library, the Oostburg Public Library, the Oscar Grady Public Library (Saukville), and the U.S.S. Liberty Memorial Public Library (Grafton). These five libraries are planning on using the ESLS WAN for access for the public wireless access, and are requesting \$500.00 each through this LSTA project to assist with the start-up of the wireless access. Once the wireless access is online for the libraries there is no continuing costs, other than possible replacement of equipment several years down the road.

Lakeshores Library System 08-181
2008 Lakeshores Wireless Internet Access \$5,500

Lakeshores Library System proposes to install wireless connections 10 member libraries and improve wireless access in 4 member libraries.

Lakeshores will implement this project by purchasing and installing wireless access point, repeaters, and power outlets in wireless areas for laptop users.

Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System 08-183
MWFLS Wireless Project, 2008 \$11,000

1. Providing new wireless Internet connections: \$8500 will be used to provide start-up wireless connections for seventeen MWFLS member libraries. These libraries currently do not offer wireless Internet services to their patrons.
2. Wireless connection upgrades: \$2500 will be used to upgrade existing wireless Internet connections at five MWFLS member libraries.
3. For the purpose of this grant, wireless Internet service is defined as wireless Internet service for patrons bringing wireless devices (laptops, PDAs) into the library, not for public access workstations owned by the library.

Nicolet Federated Library System 08-185
NFLS 2008 Wireless Internet Access Project \$8,500

This project will assist in enabling 17 libraries in primarily rural areas of the Nicolet Federated Library System service area to install wireless Internet access for library patrons. None of these libraries currently has wireless Internet access. This grant will provide funds that will be added to local funds that will make it possible for these libraries to successfully implement wireless Internet access for their patrons, thereby expanding the ability of the libraries to provide better service and increased access to library materials and databases.

Outagamie Waupaca Library System 08-187
Wireless Connections for OWLS Libraries \$3,500

Currently, eleven of seventeen OWLS library locations have wireless Internet access installed. This project proposes to assist the Black Creek, Hortonville, Marion, Scandinavia, Seymour, and Weyauwega public libraries with installing wireless Internet access at their locations. The project also proposes to upgrade wireless access at the Shiocton Public Library from the local cable provider to the OWLSnet network.

Prior to the beginning of this project, all of the included libraries will have new switches installed and will have their local networks segregated, i.e., separating the staff, public PC, and wireless networks. The cost of these switches (\$500-\$700) will be paid from the OWLSnet operating budget, and all the libraries will have the new switches installed and routers re-configured before the end of calendar 2007.

Following consultation with the OWLS staff, each library will choose between a professional wireless installation and a consumer wireless installation. Professional installations include commercial grade equipment, professional installation, and ongoing

support. Consumer installations use high-end consumer grade equipment and do not include ongoing support. OWLS staff will assist the libraries by arranging for professional installations or doing the consumer grade installations. LSTA funding will be used to assist in paying for the costs associated with this work.

South Central Library System 08-189
Wireless Internet for the Public \$5,000

The requested amount of \$5000 will allow us to put a secure wireless system in 10 member public libraries. The grant funds will be used to purchase components for the wireless system, which will cost a total of \$700 per library. This system includes a wireless server, a wireless access point, and a wireless access point antenna.

Southwest Wisconsin Library System 08-191
Wireless Internet Access in Southwest Wisconsin \$11,500

According to the Pew Internet & American Life Project, some 34% have logged onto the internet using a wireless connection either around the house, at their workplace, or some place else. Libraries in the Southwest Wisconsin Library System are seeing a growing demand for wireless internet access.

With this grant, 10 of the 28 member libraries will purchase the equipment necessary to begin to provide wireless internet access to their patrons. Another 13 of the 28 member libraries will be able to make upgrades to their local area networks that will ensure continued access to wireless internet. In many cases, the libraries have been wireless for a number of years, so this grant give those libraries the opportunity to improve the wireless internet service they provide.

Winding Rivers Library System 08-193
Wireless WRLS \$3,335

The Wireless WRLS project will assure that every public library connected to the wide area network has the opportunity to offer wireless services in 2008. A recent upgrade of routers for all WRLSWEB members, funded by the consortium, gives each of the twenty-nine participating libraries the capability to offer wireless. A few will be experimenting with it in the last half of 2007 without additional cost. One potential obstacle is support and bandwidth fees which go into effect for 2008 and could discourage some libraries from moving forward in 2008 with providing full service in their communities. The LSTA support will cover the cost of these fees for all WRLSWEB participants.

Wisconsin Valley Library Service 08-195
Installing Wireless Capability \$4,500

This grant will enable the public libraries in the Wisconsin Valley Library Service (WVLS) area that have not already implemented wireless technology to do so. The grant will provide the wireless appliance and its installation. Custom installations will be available for those libraries that need it and may require the library to contribute to a portion of those costs. The wireless installations will be separate from the WVLS WAN. The libraries understand that they will have to use a separate local provider for this service. The wireless installation will support personal computing devices that people bring into the building. Those computing devices will need to have a wireless access card in them and the patrons will need to know how to use them.

B. Special Needs

Adult, Family, and Early Literacy

Dane County Library Service 08-203
Outreach to Parenting Resource Centers \$10,201

This grant will address the literacy needs of at risk children and families who live in

economically disadvantaged areas in Dane County. Many of the targeted population for this grant are low income Hispanic families living in a geographically isolated area. To ensure our success in reaching out to underserved library users, this grant collaborates with very strong partners: Madison Public Library, Partners in Parenting Resource Centers and Joining Forces for Families.

Dane County Library Service and Madison Public Library have a long history of successful collaboration. Both agencies share The Readmobile, a truck which librarians use to bring books and programming materials to Head Starts, Even Starts and low income daycares in Madison and Dane County. We would like to expand our services by providing direct service to families living in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. Dane County Library Service and Madison Public Library are eager to collaborate with Partners in Parenting Resource Centers as they have an established and trusted presence within our targeted communities. Joining Forces For Families, a supportive service that helps link clients to resources, will partner with us by promoting the activities and resources our grant will offer.

The objectives of this grant are: 1. To provide two Partners in Parenting Resource Centers with one on site monthly Play Literacy visit and book check out. 2. To provide Partners in Parenting Resource Centers deposit collections of Play Literacy related library books and materials. 3. To raise awareness of the importance of Early Literacy by providing monthly Every Child Ready to Read workshops at Dane County Partners in Parenting Resource Centers. 4. To increase the use and awareness of public library resources for reading and independent learning by encouraging library card registration by providing field trip visits to local library branches. 5. To encourage a targeted population of 100 children to participate in the Library Summer Reading Program. 6. To increase sensitivity to economically disadvantaged families with low literacy, staff will attend a Bridges Out of Poverty workshop.

Besides access to library books and materials, this grant will also provide Every Child Ready to Read parent workshops. The workshops, which were developed by the Public Library Association and the Association for Library Service to Children, give parents the tools they need to feel comfortable in their role as their child's first teacher. Three different literacy workshops: Early Talker, Talkers, and Pre-Reader are available. Each workshop is geared towards a different stage of language development and offers tips to parents on how they can nurture their child's early literacy needs.

Eastern Shores Library System 08-205

Fighting Hate with Literacy: A Book Discussion Group Project \$19,658

This pilot project will provide for staff and materials at the Sheboygan County Detention Center to educate adult inmates on intolerance, prejudice and injustice and simultaneously increase their literacy. Lakeshore Technical College (LTC), the staff at the Detention Center and Eastern Shores Library System (ESLS) will be participating in this project. The materials for the book discussion groups will also be available for the Ozaukee County Jail Literacy Program which was established in 1992. This grant also includes funds to provide recreational reading materials for use at the Ozaukee County Jail.

The project would also afford the purchase of GED software for the Sheboygan County Detention Center and the Ozaukee County Jail. This software would allow inmates more simulated practice tests, predict test readiness and increase computer proficiency. The purchase of additional TABE (Test of Adult Basic Education) testing materials for the Ozaukee County Jail will improve the Instructors ability to assess the needs of Ozaukee County Jail inmates.

The project would include the employment of an adult basic education instructor familiar with the procedures of a detention facility. The instructor has witnessed first hand the consequences of intolerance and prejudice. Book discussion groups will be formed using items including The Freedom Writers Diary, The Diary of Anne Frank, and Six Million Paper clips. The instructor has provided on-site adult basic education to the inmate population of Sheboygan County since 1991.

Eastern Shores Library System's mission statement is to improve and extend public

library service to all residents of the library system.

Indianhead Federated Library System 08-207
Only Connect: Reaching Out to Youth at Risk \$19,190

Twenty-one libraries in the Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS) are interested in reaching out more effectively to youth, specifically teens and tweens (9-18 year olds) who are at-risk due to learning disabilities or challenging situations in their lives. To do this, they will partner with local schools or agencies serving this population. Through the partnership, librarians will learn about what kinds of materials interest these youth the most, promote their programs, and work with their partners to produce collaborative programming.

Participants will receive extra training with a workshop, given by teen specialists Peg Burington, Christy Mulligan, and Maureen Hartman. IFLS staff will assist libraries with weeding their sections on learning disabilities, and the grant will fund the purchase of current materials about learning disabilities. Finally, based on input from youth through the collaborating partners, IFLS staff will create three programming kits to lend to libraries to assist them with programming, thus enabling them to produce low-or-no-cost programs that are popular and appealing for years to come.

Kenosha Public Library 08-209
Public Library Resources for Autistic Children and Their Families \$14,093

Kenosha Public Library is applying for this grant on behalf of the Kenosha County Library System, for which Kenosha Public Library (KPL) acts as an administrative and fiscal agent. Kenosha County Library System (KCLS) is a single-county library system comprised of two multi-branch public libraries.

This Public Library Resources for Autistic Children and their Families literacy grant will benefit low literacy autistic children, their parents, caregivers, and educators, as well as other children with disabilities or special needs. Because autism is a spectrum disorder the materials and resources will be of benefit to other children with disabilities. To meet the goals and objectives of this project, the Kenosha Public Library will partner with the Kenosha Autism Support Group, the Kenosha Achievement Center and the Kenosha County Division of Disability Services. Through these agencies and the support group, the Kenosha Public Library will identify autistic children in the community, who number over 200, whose primary diagnosed disability is autism. KPL staff will work with families, caregivers, and educators to provide relevant resources to enhance literacy skills of the children diagnosed with autism. KPL will market public library services and collections that will aid in the further development of literacy skills.

A major characteristic of autism is the delayed development of language and the lack of speech. In order to address this issue and introduce early literacy skills, KPL staff will provide resources through a series of workshops, which will be held at the Kenosha Public Library and the Kenosha Achievement Center. This series of five workshops will concentrate on providing resources to parents, caregivers, and educators so that they can work with their children in developing language skills using flannel stories, social stories, sensory objects, and music. Jim Gill, musician and child development specialist, will present two concerts to the target population, as well as their siblings and other library patrons. Spanish language translators will be available at the workshops and promotional materials will be translated into Spanish as appropriate. In addition, staff from the Autism Society of Southeastern Wisconsin will present workshops to library staff on autism awareness and characteristics of autistic behavior to foster a better understanding of autism among staff. Finally, picture books, readers, visual format materials, and developmentally appropriate manipulative and sensory items will be purchased to be used to enhance early literacy skills among the target population. Books about autism for the adult reader will also be purchased. Booklists will be compiled and distributed highlighting the titles purchased for children and adults.

Lakeshores Library System 08-211
Library and Literacy Outreach to Spanish Speakers \$41,000

The Spanish speaking population in the Lakeshores Library System and Mid-Wisconsin

Federated Library System service area has grown significantly from the 1990 census to the 2000 census. In Lakeshores, Racine County has had the number of Spanish speaking residents increase 66%, while the Hispanic population in Walworth County has increased 304%. Mid-Wisconsin's Dodge County has seen an increase in Spanish speakers of 140%, Jefferson County's Latino population has increased 161% and Washington County's has increased 128%. The "Library and Literacy Outreach to Spanish Speakers" project will provide the Spanish speaking youth, families, and adults at the 42 member libraries in the two systems with programming, materials, and enhanced library services. Lakeshores Library System and Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System have collaborating and sharing system services since 2004. These services include continuing education coordination and consulting for youth services and special needs, and a shared automated catalog called "SHARE". This project strengthens the previously funded LSTA grants promoting library services to Spanish speakers in 2005 and 2007 that provided additional materials and programs for Spanish speakers in both library systems.

The member libraries of Lakeshores and Mid-Wisconsin, the Racine Literacy Council, and the Walworth County Literacy Council look forward to promoting library services to Spanish speakers in our communities. "Library and Literacy Outreach to Spanish Speakers" includes the following components:

1. Translate member library card applications, policies, and brochures.
2. Offer conversational Spanish classes for library staff.
3. Hire a bilingual Storywagon series performer for summer library programs in 2008.
4. Sponsor a workshop on library outreach to Spanish speakers.
5. Purchase professional collection materials to benefit member libraries and their Spanish speaking patrons.
6. Offer mini-grants to member libraries to purchase Spanish language, bilingual, and ESL materials in a variety of formats.
7. Market services to Spanish speakers through the member libraries, literacy councils, and community agencies.
8. Sponsor a family program at each library receiving mini-grants during Hispanic Heritage month.
9. Purchase a subscription to online Rosetta Stone English Level 1 and 2 language learning software, which will allow anyone with a library card from one of the Lakeshores or Mid-Wisconsin libraries and web access to learn English.

Milwaukee Public Library 08-213
Raising Readers Family Literacy Program \$48,000

The Milwaukee Public Library has focused its early literacy efforts on reaching child care teachers through the Books2Go and Ready to Read programs. While we have been very successful in reaching child care providers and children through those programs we need to intensify our message to parents on the importance of developing early literacy skills in their children and foster more families who are regular library users. To accomplish this we intend to pilot weekly programming for families at two central city libraries, the Martin Luther King, Jr. and Center St. locations. We will also improve library facilities by creating family friendly spaces with age appropriate activities that are engaging for young children. Family Nights, offered on a weekly basis will not only be fun and interactive, but also educate the parents about the value and importance of developing early literacy skills. Family Nights, lead by an educator, will be structured to be flexible enough to meet the needs of the families attending. They will be specifically designed to be able to respond to families with children from birth to age three and any older children they may also have in the family. The library staff, Family Educator and any special guests at Family Nights will interact one-on-one with families. The library will work with community partners in the area to reach our targeted audience.

Oshkosh Public Library 08-215
Creating FamilySpace: A Family Resource Center at the Oshkosh Public Library \$5,626

The Oshkosh Public Library and their collaborating partners will achieve the objectives of this project by providing a Family Resource Center located in a neutral and easily accessible space.

This project will benefit the entire Oshkosh service population with a focus on the families living in poverty with literacy issues and their children 3 and under. The Oshkosh Public Library is currently an active partner in the Early Learning Collaborating Council (ELCCO), as is the Winnebago County Literacy Council. The Family and Community Outreach Committee of ELCCO while exploring possibilities for a family resource center developed the proposal that is being outlined in this grant.

This project will add learning environments for children under the age of three to an extensive existing Parent/Teacher collection. The physical space will no longer be "Kidspace", but renamed "FamilySpace". In addition to the change in the physical environment, we will contract for a project coordinator position with one of the partners to recruit and coordinate a variety of parenting and literacy programs offered in the library meeting rooms. These programs will be provided by cooperating community agencies and open to the public. There will be a marketing strategy developed that will recognize the necessity for a non-print approach as part of the advertising.

Outagamie Waupaca Library System 08-217

Libraries and Literacy Councils: Making a Difference Together \$25,999

This project proposes to demonstrate and promote the role of Outagamie Waupaca Library System and Nicolet Federated Library System area public libraries in improving literacy and reading skills for people having difficulty using libraries. Specifically, this project addresses adult, family and early literacy by focusing on individuals for whom English is a learned language (ELL). The Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS) and Nicolet Federated Library System (NFLS) will collaborate with member libraries, area literacy councils, and school districts to provide increased opportunities for learning English and for communicating with non-English speakers. The following eight OWLS and NFLS member libraries currently work directly with community literacy groups and provide study areas for literacy tutors and students to meet one-on-one: Algoma Public Library, Appleton Public Library, Clintonville Public Library, Kaukauna Public Library, Kewaunee Public Library, New London Public Library, Shawano City-County Library, and Waupaca Area Public Library. Collaborating with the Fox Valley, Green Bay, Shawano, and Kewaunee County literacy coalitions and with their area school districts, it is proposed that each library receive a laptop installed with the ELL CD-ROM edition of Rosetta Stone software. Students working with tutors or in small groups will have exclusive access to the ELL workstations in participating libraries. An added benefit to students will be the opportunity to serendipitously acquire computer skills in a cooperative learning environment.

This product provides a multi-media immersion approach to learning a new language through real-life images, written text, and voices of native speakers. Non-English speakers will learn at their own pace from home, at school, or within a library using public access computers when the ELL workstations are busy. The online edition of language software will also be available to library workers, tutors, agency employees, school district employees, and community members who want to improve their ability to communicate with and serve non-English speakers. Online access is an excellent alternative for language study because it allows for 24/7 access for unlimited users and will avoid the need to replace frequently missing materials.

South Central Library System 08-219

Building Blocks: Early Math Skills \$38,700

Libraries are the cornerstones of strong communities. We build foundations for lifelong learning and often are the only places where families from all socio-economic classes and cultures mingle with one another. Libraries provide a level playing field; we are especially proactive in helping young children prepare for literate lives by incorporating developmentally appropriate early reading skills into our programs for young children and their families. As a profession we're book people and are comfortable introducing early reading skills, but, on the average, very few libraries intentionally include early math skills in their programs for young children. (Nearly 80% of librarians observed in a 2006 VT Center for the Book study failed to introduce early math skills in traditional library programs for toddlers & preschoolers.)

"Building Blocks" will address developmentally appropriate early math skills in library programs for young children, their parents and caregivers. Participating libraries will

obtain resources and materials that will strengthen these skills and expose children, particularly those who live in poverty, to early math concepts, such as opposites, shapes, numbers, deduction, sequences and patterns. Children will experiment with, and, most important, EXPERIENCE, math through library programs that are intentionally created to include early math skills. Through appropriate continuing education workshops, library staff will learn ways to discuss early math skills with parents and care givers; the needs of children who live in poverty are unique, so library staff will learn specific methods for addressing early learning with adults who parent and care for children who live in poverty.

2008 is the Year of Early Math at SCLS. We will host a day-long workshop on April 16 that, through multiple sessions, will train youth services librarians in ways to seamlessly include math skills in library programs for young children. The Arbuthnot lecture will be a finale to the conference and will celebrate the beauty and artistic expression of math.

Building Blocks will:

1. Introduce methods for including early math skills & experiences in library programs for young children.
2. Introduce methods for modeling early math skills to parents and caregivers.
3. Sensitively introduce techniques for working with children and parents who live in poverty.
4. Introduce new methods of evaluating literacy programs.

Family literacy programs work for children, adults and society. These programs also work for public libraries and their partners, whose shared goals include improving literacy skills of all members of their communities.

Wisconsin Valley Library Service 08-221

Project Inclusion: Serving Children with Disabilities and Their Families \$21,800

WVLS and 15 member public libraries will take a proactive stance to address the literacy needs of children with disabilities and to make libraries meaningful and welcoming places for these children and their families. Project Inclusion targets the 17% of children under age 18 (10,011 children) in Clark, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida and Taylor Counties with developmental and learning disabilities. The 2008 Project Inclusion grant will:

- 1) Overcome a knowledge and skills barrier by training library staff on developmental and learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorders, early childhood/early intervention programs, goals of special education, respect and language, strategies for supporting children with disabilities and their families, tips for interacting, and assistive equipment/technology.
- 2) Offer inclusive programming to welcome children of all abilities and to raise disability awareness in the community.
- 3) Support parents, siblings, teachers and other community professionals who work with children with disabilities by adding current information resources on disabilities.
- 4) Enhance literacy skills of children with disabilities by providing developmentally appropriate library materials in a variety of formats and reading levels: high interest/low vocabulary books, large print, recorded books, close-captioned DVDs, abridged classics, educational software/music, and more.
- 5) Recognize the play needs of children with disabilities. Play is a child's work, so each library will be equipped with an activity bin featuring several engaging tactile toys and manipulatives (switch-activated toys, sensory toys, fidget toys, etc.).
- 6) Ensure that library materials and services are well-known to families of children with disabilities by partnering with school districts and parent support groups. These partnerships will enable direct communication about the project via e mail, letters to families, and newsletters.

Sensory and Mobility Disabilities

Burlington Public Library 08-223

Home Delivery to Burlington Area Patrons \$10,418

Seniors 65 and over make up 13.9% of the city of Burlington's population, and seniors in the City and Town of Burlington account for almost 2200 people, according to US Census Bureau figures for 2000. The same census figures show that 39% of that population has at least one disability.

Seniors with impaired mobility that are still living at home have not been served by our efforts. We would like to start up a home delivery service in conjunction with our local meals on wheels program and our local Visiting Nurse Association. Tailored carefully to the needs and interests of home bound served by the meals program and the nurses, librarians would contact those interested in participating, develop a profile of topics and formats that would best serve the patron, and deliver the material to the senior center that serves as a hub for the meals on wheels program and the nursing headquarters. Volunteers who deliver the meals and Nurses visiting patients would deliver the material and pick up materials for return. Library volunteers and friends would regularly pick up materials from the senior center and visiting nursing headquarters.

After we had refined this model, our goal would be to expand the program to include those reached by church outreach groups.

U.S.S. Liberty Memorial Public Library 08-225

Homebound Delivery Service \$3,000

The purpose of this project is to deliver library materials to Grafton residents who are homebound. This project advances the mission of our library, which is to help meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the community. It would allow us to help meet these needs for people who cannot easily visit the library.

The homebound people we have identified are elderly, and research shows that many elderly people have vision impairments. Any grant monies the library receives would be used to expand our large-print book collection so we can offer people with vision impairments a current and diverse selection of titles. For us to effectively locate homebound people, we would market the program with signage, brochures, and the library newsletter, newspapers and on the community access channel. Other marketing approaches would include distributing large-print brochures to the county meals delivery program, the Grafton Senior Center, local churches, and local assisted-living centers.

In order to offer library items that are suitable to each homebound person, individual reader profiles would need to be created. These would contain specific information on a person's reading and listening preferences. These profiles would assist library staff and volunteers as they select items for delivery. Homebound people would receive regular, scheduled delivery to their residence. They would receive extended check-out periods with delivery every other month. Volunteers would use their vehicles to deliver the items.

Hedberg Public Library 08-227

Enhancing Services to Seniors \$5,340

Currently, the Hedberg Public Library provides materials for homebound residents and seven senior housing facilities. The goal of this project is to increase community connectivity for Janesville's senior citizens with sensory and mobility disabilities. Two additional library activities will be provided on-site. The first will be book discussion groups led by volunteers from the local American Association of University Women. The second will be a variety of programs utilizing Bifolkal kits and other library materials developed and presented by Hedberg Public Library's adult services coordinator.

Waukesha County Federated Library System 08-229

Mental Health Issues in Library Services \$13,560

This project is designed to promote the role of public libraries in Waukesha County in meeting the information needs of people with sensory disabilities. It addresses the need to increase--and make more accessible--library services to individuals with mental health disorders, including the provision of library staff training on how to work with the targeted population.

According to "Services for Persons with Mental Illness," published by the Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau, January, 2007, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) estimates 26.2% of American adults have a diagnosable mental disorder. The report also notes 4 of the 10 leading causes of disability in the U.S. are mental disorders. NIMH estimates about 6% of adults in the U.S. have a severe mental illness. When asked about Waukesha County statistics, Dr. Michele Cusatis, director of the Waukesha County Mental Health Center, referred to a 2006 report published by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This study states that the rate of serious mental illness self-reported in adults is 11.3 percent. Using the range of the two figures reported by the NIMH (6 percent) and SAMHSA (11.3 percent), one could expect the number of adults in Waukesha County having a serious mental health illness to fall between 22,775 and 42,892. In fact, according to Jane DeGeorge, Program Director, Mental Health Association in Waukesha County, approximately 1 out of 4 families deal with some type of mental health disorder.

Special Needs representatives from member libraries identified the issue of serving difficult customers and those with mental illness as a priority for 2008 special needs programming during a July, 2007, planning meeting. Specifically, the group indicated a need for workshops on providing library staff tools for serving individuals with mental health disorders as well as customers who are difficult to deal with. While many member libraries indicated a need for an in-service in the library to maximize the number of staff attendance, other libraries were interested in a larger workshop offered county-wide. They also indicated a need for funds to upgrade their collections with up-to-date materials on mental health topics. This need to address the concerns of libraries serving individuals dealing with mental illness was confirmed by Lisa McLean, director of the Mental Health Association in Waukesha County. She indicated that people with severe mental illness are drawn to public libraries and library staff members need to be aware of issues facing this population in order to facilitate appropriate use of the library by those with mental illness.

This grant project has 3 components:

- 1) **Staff Development** - A countywide workshop, with follow-up in-services for interested libraries. The workshops will focus on tools for serving individuals dealing with mental health disorders as well as raising awareness on local resources available for them.
- 2) **Collection Development** - Funds for participating libraries to update their collections specifically on mental health, with awareness of purchasing various formats; and,
- 3) **Marketing** -- to raise awareness about libraries offering information resources on mental health issues. Mental health services providers have already been or will be consulted during the planning and execution of this project.

*Winding Rivers Library System 08-231
Serving Caregivers and Seniors with Special Needs \$25,947*

Aging and care-giving are two immediate issues affecting all of our communities. With this proposal, the Winding Rivers Library System (WRLS) will assist its libraries to address these issues by helping them to improve their services to senior citizens with special needs, and to family caregivers.

Ten public libraries, in three counties, will work with WRLS to develop and distribute surveys to seniors with special needs and family caregivers, to determine their information interests and service needs. Librarians will receive training in serving these target populations, and will use the results of the surveys to update their materials collections, enhance the accessibility of their libraries, and collaborate with local and regional agencies to plan and present programs for these groups. Participating libraries

will add adaptive equipment: full spectrum lamps for their reading areas, walkers with baskets and seats for comfortable library browsing, and accessories to make their computers more accessible. Two libraries will install electronic doors on their buildings. WRLS will assist the libraries with marketing and promoting their improved services and expanded collections.

Library Development Training Projects

Indianhead Federated Library System 08-307 *Training the Next Generation of Library Advocates \$3,000*

Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS) identified a need on the part of library staff for more training and resources about advocacy and marketing. In addition, because of the large geographic area and varying issues in our system, it is important to provide various training options. In order to meet this need, IFLS will provide three workshops (one remote); an advocacy kit; and a video recording of an interview with an expert in the field.

Pat Wagner, of Pattern Consulting, will give a full day workshop about library advocacy and marketing on April 24, 2008 in River Falls. On April 25 she will present a half-day workshop about the same topics in Rice Lake. While here, she will participate in a video-taped interview, which will be lent to librarians who are unable to attend the training.

In May, IFLS staff will complete an advocacy kit, consisting of a press release, poster, and electronic presentation that libraries can customize and use for presentations to community groups. In addition, staff will present a workshop via OPAL (Online Programming for All Libraries) about how to customize materials and use them effectively to reach out.

This project will be evaluated based on how relevant the librarians feel the information and resources are and how many advocacy and public relations ideas are implemented as a result of the workshop.

Kenosha Public Library 08-309 *Talking Teen—How to Facilitate Positive Interactions with Teens \$3,000*

The Kenosha Public Library is located in the city of Kenosha and consists of four branches and a Bookmobile. The Community Library serves the western part of the county with libraries in Salem, Twin Lakes, and Silver Lake.

This Library Development Training Project "Talking Teen-How to Facilitate Positive Interactions with Teens," will allow Kenosha Public Library to hire trainers to provide expertise to KCLS library staff and boards on the key points that foster positive interactions with teens. This is a benefit for our staff and boards, as well as for the Kenosha County teen population. Library staff faces challenges in dealing with teen patrons. Training our front line staff, including librarians, aides, and clerks will provide a higher comfort level and more positive experience for our teen library users, increasing positive usage of the library by our teen populations. YA programming has been offered with a low turnout. This training will lead to successful teen programming.

To meet the objectives of this project, the Kenosha Public Library will partner with Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD).

There are four objectives this grant will address:

1. How to talk teen. Peg Burington, a certified American Library Association (ALA) Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) trainer will present an all day training to address communication with teens for staff who work directly with our teen population. Christy Mulligan, a certified ALA YALSA trainer, will lead two, 2-hour sessions for front line reference and circulation staff at Kenosha Public Library and Community Library to address adolescent development and the strategies for serving the youth population.

2. How to develop successful teen programming, including what teens want, where, and when they want it. Peg Burlington, will present a session on how to develop successful teen programming. The session will be attended by Library staff from Kenosha Public Library and Community Library who plan teen programs. She will also lead an evening training for Kenosha Public Library, Community Library, and Kenosha County Library System boards to describe program justification and teen development.

3. How to get the word out to the teen population. How to approach students in school settings, gather information through surveys, and organize a teen focus group. Maria Kotz, Teacher Consultant, Professional Development, Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD), and a KUSD middle/high school teacher will present a 2-hour workshop for Kenosha Public Library and Community Library staff on how to approach students in school settings, and specifically how to organize a focus group. The goal of the teen focus group will be to create a survey, survey teens, and implement recommendations based on the results.

4. How to successfully define teen space. This training will be attended by the Library Senior Management Team and staff who plan programming for teens.

Oshkosh Public Library 08-311

Changing the Service Paradigm at the Oshkosh Public Library \$3,000

The Oshkosh Public Library must re-educate staff to provide more personalized service to users. Library users in the Oshkosh area still look to their public library as a place to get personal assistance with research, help with technology-based services and recommendations for good reading material.

The move toward knowledge-sharing interactions, such as reader's advisory services, and expanded support of technology-based services, will be a dramatic cultural shift for a portion of the staff at the Oshkosh Public Library - a shift away from more mechanical, circulation-based or information-retrieval services, to value-added literacy-based service. Staff reductions, a move to increase the percentage of materials checked out on self-service equipment and the planned consolidation of public service desks will press paraprofessional staff to assume more responsibility for personalized service. Thus, the Oshkosh Public Library must implement a training program that will guide staff into its new role.

To achieve the objectives in our recently completed strategic plan, the Oshkosh Public Library must create a training model that will advance the move toward personalized service and provide for ongoing staff development. The library will contract with a consultant who can assist management in designing a staff training program that addresses emerging customer service needs and can be modified over time to address new staff development issues as they arise. The project would provide training for selected staff who would then conduct training with remaining staff and develop future modules as needed.

Outagamie Waupaca Library System 08-313

Warren Graham Security Training \$2,400

The purpose of this grant request is to provide security training for staff of the member libraries of the Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS). Specifically, member library staff will be trained in safe and effective methods for working with the public. OWLS member libraries' staff regularly interacts with patrons who are difficult or disruptive. Most staff have not received security training, and the majority of the libraries do not have security policies.

This project would provide member library staff with two days of training by Warren Graham, a well-respected security consultant who frequently presents at national conferences and libraries. Mr. Graham is the author of *Black Belt Librarians* and has over 25 years of experience as a security professional. Prior to consulting, he developed and oversaw Security and Safety for the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. By hosting two days of Warren Graham's security training in 2008, the majority of OWLS member libraries' staff will be able to attend, learn effective ways to manage security issues and be able to communicate with patrons who are exhibiting inappropriate

behavior.

OWLS will coordinate the proposed training workshops with the South Central Library System (SCLS). A total of four workshops will be held in Wisconsin, enabling a larger number of Wisconsin librarians to receive the training.

South Central Library System 08-315
Security Training \$2,400

Communities expect their public libraries to be safe and welcoming places. However, a brief review of the news in American Libraries reveals that many disturbing incidents take place in libraries. Anecdotal comments from SCLS member libraries indicate that dealing with challenging behavior, disruptive patrons, and calling the police to deal with problem situations is becoming more common.

Training library staff to deal effectively and consistently with problem behavior and situations is critical to ensuring the continued safety and security of both library patrons and staff. This grant proposes to bring Warren Graham, a renowned security expert, to Wisconsin to train library staff on day-to-day library security procedures and how to deal with challenging behaviors and difficult situations.

South Central Library System (SCLS) will work cooperatively with the Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS) to bring this program to a wider audience. Warren Graham would present four programs in Wisconsin - two for SCLS and two for OWLS.

- Southwest Wisconsin Library System (SWLS) is willing to co-sponsor the first SCLS session in Madison and make this training available to their member libraries.
- Marshfield Public Library, a member of SCLS, is willing to co-sponsor and host the second session which will make the training accessible to SCLS member libraries (and other area librarians) in the northern part of the system.

Southwest Wisconsin Library System 08-317
Tech Tuesdays in SW Wisconsin \$660

Technology has been, and continues to be, a wonderful tool for libraries. It has expanded services and opened the door to opportunities that were not thought possible. However, technology is only effective if staff know how to use it. This grant proposal will allow the participating library staff to:

- Increase their knowledge of basic network components
- Increase their ability to effectively troubleshoot wireless internet connection problems
- Attend technology training without the loss of significant staff time or additional cost of travel

Spooner Memorial Library 08-319
From Functional to Phenomenal: Training for Seven Rural Libraries \$1,500

From Functional to Phenomenal: Training for Seven Rural Libraries to Improve Services and Programs, is a cooperative effort of the public libraries of Burnett, Sawyer and Washburn County. Our goal is to improve the current services and programs offered to the public by providing both staff and directors with training from a professional speaker/consultant. Each of the seven libraries will conduct patron surveys three months before and again six months after the training takes place. The initial surveys will help serve as guides to the changes desired by patrons. The second survey will allow directors and staff members evaluate how the changes instituted have affected customer satisfaction.

The training planned is a daylong workshop to be attended by all the directors and staff members of the seven libraries. A professional librarian/educator will conduct the workshop on improving library service skills and incorporating teen and adult programs.

Winding Rivers Library System 08-321
Web 2.0 & Library 2.0 Workshop \$2,600

While Library 2.0 saturates both online and print library news and publications, librarians must have a firm grasp of Web 2.0 technology components to understand how they will fit into the Library 2.0 service idea. After doing a needs assessment survey, WRLS staff determined we have a great need for further training on Web 2.0 components such as blogs, podcasts, RSS feeds, IM, Wikis and Flickr. To meet this training need, we plan to host a workshop with tech-savvy librarian and trainer, Jessamyn West. In addition to her notable technology expertise, Ms. West has considerable experience working with technology in rural areas; experience that will be very valuable to librarians from the rural Winding Rivers Library System area.

For questions about this information, contact [Teresa D. Howe](#) (608) 266-2413

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